objection has not been a sound proposition and might have caused some loss to the interest of the Board.

(d) The Punjab Wakf Board reviewed the matter in early 1997 and it was decided that no objection certificate for construction will not be issued in case of 11 months' lease and this practice has been completely stopped after 31st March, 1997. Every possible effort is being made by the punjab Wakf Board to ensure that the leasing out of Wakf properties is in consonance with the provisions of the Wakf Act, 1995 and action is also being taken against the lessees who have raised unauthorized constructions by issuing notices under the provisions of the Wakf Act, 1995.

Policy to protect Elders

883. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to protect elder persons igainst domestic violence, grs "'lief, conns-ions on medical expi and other reliefs for the old aged; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the

steps taken in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) A National Policy for order Persona *a a*nder consideration of the Govesnmeai which shall be formalised based upon and subject to consultations with State Governments, Union Territory Administrations, concerned Ministries of the Central Government and experts in the field. The Policy is amongst others expected to address issues re'ating to income security, health care, housing, security, and other needs of older persons.

Complaints Against Officials of PWB

884. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against certain officials of Punjab Wakf Board who have amassed wealth by leasing the Wakf properties;

(b) if so, whether Government have instituted any enquiry; and

(c) if not, whether Government will consider entrusting the inquiry to the CBI as crores of rupees properties have been misused?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The complaints have been referred to the Vigilance Section of the Ministry for investigation.

(c) Does not arise.

Schemes unproved for backward and downtrodden people In Gujerat

885. SHRI BRAHMA KUMAR BHATT Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be

(a) the name of the schmes which have so far been approved by Government for the development of backwards and downtrodden people in Gujarat with details;

(b) the allocation of central fund for each scheme;

(c) the number of people benefited with the schemes,

(d) whether the State Government has requested for additional funds for the schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thei

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The

names of schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the development of SC, ST, and OBCs in various States, including the State of Gujarat, and the amount allocated for each scheme for the year 1998-99 are given in the statement attached *(See* below).

(c) Information will be available only after the allocations have been spent.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

s. No.	Name of the Scheme	Budget allocation 1998-99 (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
(I) *Schemes for the Other Backward Classes*		
1	Pre-exantination coaching for OBCs	2.00
2.	Prc-matric Scholarship for OBCs students	2.00
3.	Post-matric Scholarship for OBCs students	5.00
4.	Hostels for OBC students.	2.00
5.	Aid to Voluntary Organisations	2.00
6.	National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation.	91.50
(II) *Schemes for the Welfare of Scheduled Caste*		
1.	Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan for SCs	361.00
2.	Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Share Capital Assistance to State's SCDCs	60.00
3.	Post Matric Scholarship for SC/ST students	65.00
4.	Pre-Matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in Unclean occupations	4.00
	hing & Allied Scheme	3.00
6.	book Banks	3.60
7.	Boys Hostels for SCs	11.00
0.	Giils Hostels for SCs	8.00
9.	National Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents	90.00
10.	Special Educational Development Programme for SC girls belonging to very low literacy level	3.00
11.	Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST students	1.00
12.	Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for SCs.	18.00
13.	Implementation of PCR Act and SC&ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.	15.50
14.	Supporting Project of All India nature of SCs.	1.90
(III) *Schemes for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes*		
1.	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub Plan	380.00
2.	Girls Hostels	8.00
3.	Boys Hostels	8.00

1	2	3
4.	Development of Primitive Tribes	5.00
5.	Assistance to Voluntary Organisation	20.00
6.	Investment in Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation in India Ltd.	10.00
7.	Price Support to TRIFED	6.00
8.	Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas	9.00
9.	Educational complex in low literacy pockets for development of women literacy intribal areas	7.00
10.	Vocational Training in Tribal Area	6.75
11	Village Grain Banks	3.00
12.	Rehanilitation of displaced Tribal Families	25.00
13.	Grant under ART 275(1) of the Constitution.	75.00
14.	Grants-in-aid to State Tribal Cooperative Corporations for Minor Forest Produce Operations	6.25
15.	Research & Training	7.00

Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya Scheme

886. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya Scheme has run into rough weather due to wrangle between Ministry of Human Resource Development and Sociai Justice;

(b) if so, the issues involved thereon;

(c) the attempts made to solve this problem, if any; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya Scheme' formulated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is still under process for obtaining final approval of Government for its various elements and also for deciding the Ministry/Department which should take up its implementation.

Crises In Steel Industry

887. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the steel industry of India is near collapse and small scale steel plants rolling mills have closed and the large unite like TISCO and SAIL have incurred heavy losses.

(b) whether Government are taking a serious view of the crises of the steel industry; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures Government initiated to save the steel industry from total closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) It is not a fact that Steel Industry in India is near